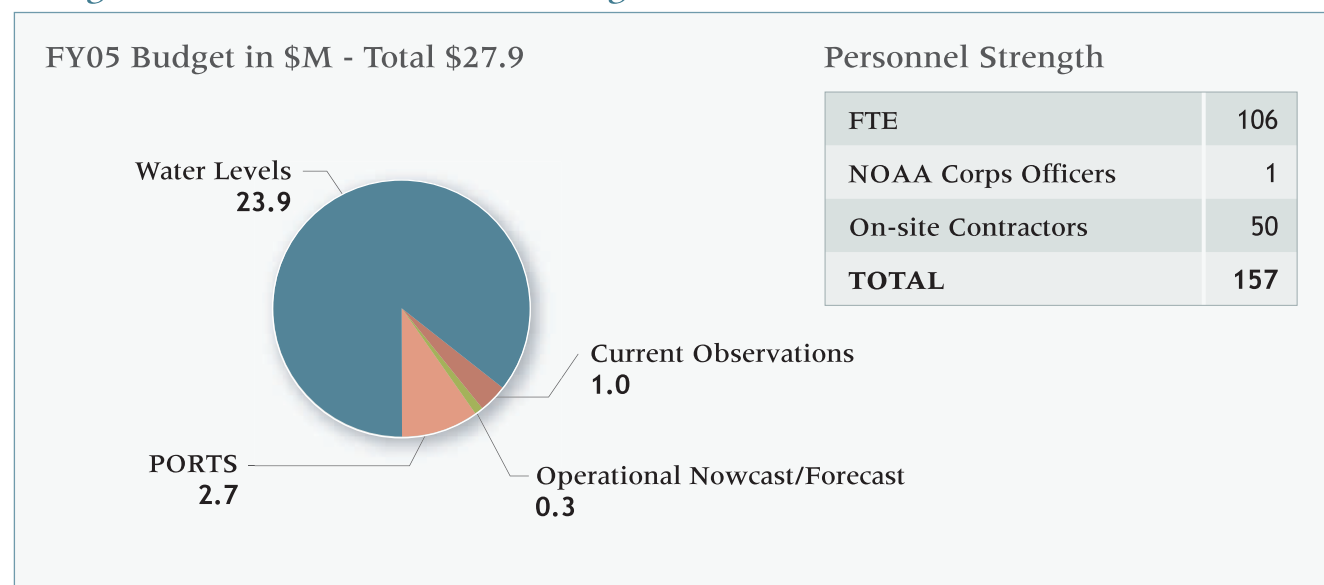


# Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services

Mike Szabados, Director  
Rich Edwing, Deputy Director

## Budget and Total Personnel Strength



## Organization

**Requirements and Development Division**  
Thomas Mero, Chief

**Field Operations Division**  
Michael O'Hargan, Chief

**Oceanography Division**  
vacant

**Information Systems Division**  
Thomas Bethem, Chief

## Office Responsibilities and Highlights

- **Physical Oceanographic Real-Time Systems (PORTS®) are now operating** at 12 locations and support safe and efficient navigation at 34 U.S. seaports.
- **New Galveston Bay Forecasting System online** which provides mariners, port managers, and emergency response teams with present and future conditions of water levels, currents, temperature, and salinity.
- **CO-OPS launched the Storm Surge Quick Look**, a product that integrates NWS storm-tracking information with NOS water level storm surge and meteorological data from stations experiencing hurricane conditions. The Web-based *Quick Look* product is supported on a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week basis during hurricane events.
- **A new PORTS® navigation tool called Air Gap** measures the clearance between the water surface and bridges to help vessels, which are being built ever larger and taller, avoid dangerous collisions with bridges.
- **Tide information made available via cell phone** using a service developed by ekkosoft.us called Salt Water Tides. Salt Water Tides accesses data from CO-OPS computers and uses NOAA algorithms to generate tide prediction graphics for thousands of locations around the U.S. coast.